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Dated: May 15, 2009

Signature: Laure Brown

(Laure Brown)

Docket No.: 59439(70904)
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Takashi Imai et al.

Application No.: 10/603,721

Confirmation No.: 3344

Filed: June 24, 2003

Art Unit: 2179

For: USER INTERFACING DISPLAY
APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING
APPARATUS

Examiner: S. K. Becker

**AMENDMENT OF APPEAL BRIEF SECTION IN RESPONSE TO
NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT BRIEF**

MS Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is filed in response to the Notification of Non-Compliant Brief mailed on April 17, 2009.

Box 4 is checked requesting a concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal. Box 10 explains that the summary as originally filed referred to independent claims 1 and 16 together, not separately.

Applicants submit herewith corrected substitute pages 3-4d of the Appeal Brief to be substituted for pages 3 and 4 of the Appeal Brief as filed on November 24, 2009, Section V, addressing independent claims 1, 16 and 17. While the Notification did not expressly comment on independent claim 17, Applicants have also treated it separately on substitute pages 4b-4d.

In the summary of claim 1, discussion of the "control section" and "display control section" are changed to "control means" and "display control means" to be consistent with the language of claim 1 in the third paragraph, line 6 of the substitute page 4, "electric" is also changed to "electronic" to correct a clear typographical error.

As claims 16 and 17 directly parallel claim 1, the summary of the content, with references to the specification and drawings, also parallel the summary of the content of the claims.

Applicants urge that the Appeal Brief, as amended herein, is now compliant.

Applicants also submit herewith a confirmation of their Request for an Oral Hearing.

A Reply Brief responsive to the Examiner's Answer will be filed within the required period for same.

Dated: May 15, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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A clean set of the claims on appeal is set forth in the Claim Appendix hereto.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The present invention addresses the problem that if one can interrupt a job being processed by the electronic apparatus, confusion can arise as to whether a displayed pop-up detail setting is associated with the job being run before or after the interruption (p. 4, line 23 to p. 5, line 11).

All of the claims on appeal include an interface display apparatus e.g. control panel 50 (Figs. 3, 4), 50a (Fig. 10) in an electronic apparatus such as an image forming apparatus, described in the specification with reference to a digital photocopier 1 (p. 18, line 25 to p. 19, line 7). The user interface control panel 50, 50a includes a liquid crystal display (LCD) section 52 (Figs. 1, 2, 4-6, 9 and 20) and a display control section 69 (Fig. 3; p. 26, lines 18-21).

The operation panel 50, 50a has a hard key group 51 and soft keys on the LCD 52 (p. 26, line 22 to p. 27, line 4; Figs. 1, 4-6, 9 and 10). Pressing a detail setting key (e.g. exemplary detail setting keys 61-66 shown in Figs. 4 and 10) produces on the LCD 52 a pop-up display of the detail item (see e.g. pop-up 67, Fig.1, displaying details of detail setting key 68).

Claim 1

Claim 1 is directed to a user interfacing display apparatus (operation panels 50, 50a; Figs. 3, 4 and 10) for use in electronic apparatus that can perform a plurality of jobs in accordance with certain detail settings (e.g., copy ratio 66, paper selection 65) (p. 17, line 24 to p. 18, line 14). The electronic apparatus is described with reference to a digital photocopier 1, but can be other apparatus (p. 40, lines 1-7).

The electronic apparatus is capable of performing plural jobs (Fig. 4, p. 30, lines 11-19), e.g. a (preceding) job 57a that is currently being processed and a (standby) job 57b that is standing by to be processed next, or further stand-by jobs.

The user interface apparatus includes as a claim element an interruption key (60, 70; Figs. 4-6 and 10). As stated at page 30, lines 22-24, "The interruption key 60 is used, for example, in case a photocopy job is in process, so as to stop photocopying and to perform another process." Pressing the key instructs an interruption and transmits interruption instructions to the control means of the electronic apparatus (described as the control section 7) (Figs. 2 and 3). The control means is operably connected to a display control means (described with reference to exemplary display control section 69 (Fig. 3) of the operation panel 80. The control means 7 and display control means 69 can share functions (p. 39, lines 3-17).

The soft interrupt key 60 can change its state, e.g. to a grey display 60a (Fig. 1), or a partially obscured display 60b (Fig. 9). In the case of a hard key interrupt key 70 (Fig. 10), the specification describes the key as having a lamp that be ON or OFF, to change state (p. 36, line 19 to p. 37, line 17). The interrupt key remains displayed through a change of state.

The invention as claimed also requires an interconnection between the interrupt key change of state and the selection of a detail setting for one of the plural jobs.

This connection is through the claimed display section (58 in the Figures; p. 29, lines 8-24) of the LCD 52 of interfacing display apparatus 50, 50a (p. 30, line 11 to p. 33, line 2). In particular, display control means (sections 7, 69), pop-ups on this display section the detail settings (e.g. 68a - 68d in Fig. 1) associated with a

this display section the detail settings (e.g. 68a - 68d in Fig. 1) associated with a selected detail setting key (e.g. "copy ratio" key 68) for one of the jobs. Part (iv) of claim 1 specifies as a result of selecting of a detail setting key, the interruption key changes its display state, and remains displayed on the display section. (Compare, e.g., 60a in Fig. 1 with 60 in Fig. 5; see also p. 29, lines 23-24; p. 31, line 15; page 32, line 5, and p. 34, lines 15-18).

Claim 16

Claim 16 is closely patterned on claim 1, differing in that it refers to a control section and display control section rather than a control means and display control means. Like claim 1, claim 16 is directed to a user interfacing display apparatus (operation panels 50, 50a) for use in electronic apparatus that can perform a plurality of jobs in accordance with certain detail settings (e.g., copy ratio 66, paper selection 65) (p. 17, line 24 to p. 18, line 14). The electronic apparatus is described with reference to a digital photocopier 1, but can be other apparatus (p. 40, lines 1-7).

The electronic apparatus is capable of performing plural jobs (Fig. 4, p. 30, lines 11-19), e.g. a (preceding) job 57a that is currently being processed and a (standby) job 57b that is standing by to be processed next, or further stand-by jobs.

The user interface apparatus includes as a claim element an interruption key (60, 70; Figs. 4-6 and 10). As stated at page 30, lines 22-24, "The interruption key 60 is used, for example, in case a photocopy job is in process, so as to stop photocopying and to perform another process." Pressing the key instructs an interruption and transmits interruption instructions to the control section of the electronic apparatus (described as the control section 7; (Figs. 2 and 3). The control section is operably connected to a display control section (described with

reference to exemplary display control section 69 (Fig. 3) of the operation panel 80). The control section 7 and display control section 69 can share functions (p. 39, lines 3-17).

The soft interrupt key 60 can change its state, e.g. to a grey display 60a (Fig. 1), or a partially obscured display 60b (Fig. 9). In the case of a hard key interrupt key 70 (Fig. 10), the specification describes the key as having a lamp that be ON or OFF, to change state (p. 36, line 19 to p. 37, line 17). The interrupt key remains displayed through a change of state.

The invention as claimed also requires an interconnection between the interrupt key change of state and the selection of a detail setting for one of the plural jobs.

This connection is through the claimed display section (58 in the Figures; p. 29, lines 8-24) of the LCD 52 of interfacing display apparatus 50, 50a (p. 30, line 11 to p. 33, line 2). In particular, display control section (sections 7, 69), pop-ups on this display section 58 the detail settings (e.g. 68a - 68d in Fig. 1) associated with a selected detail setting key (e.g. "copy ratio" key 68) for one of the jobs. Part (iv) of claim 16 specifies as a result of selecting of a detail setting key, the interruption key changes its display state, and remains displayed on the display section. (Compare, e.g., 60a in Fig. 1 with 60 in Fig. 5; see also p. 29, lines 23-24; p. 31, line 15; page 32, line 5, and p. 34, lines 15-18).

Claim 17

Claim 17 is directed to an image forming apparatus that comprises, inter alia, a user interfacing display apparatus with the features delineated for this display apparatus in claim 1.

As in claim 1 the claimed user interfacing display apparatus (operation panels 50, 50a) for use in the electronic apparatus can perform a plurality of jobs in accordance with certain detail settings (e.g., copy ratio 66, paper selection 65) (p. 17, line 24 to p. 18, line 14). The electronic apparatus is described with reference to a digital photocopier 1, but can be other apparatus (p. 40, lines 1-7).

The electronic apparatus is capable of performing plural jobs (Fig. 4, p. 30, lines 11-19), e.g. a (preceding) job 57a that is currently being processed and a (standby) job 57b that is standing by to be processed next, or further stand-by jobs.

The user interface apparatus includes as a claim element an interruption key (60, 70; Figs. 4-6 and 10). As stated at page 30, lines 22-24, "The interruption key 60 is used, for example, in case a photocopy job is in process, so as to stop photocopying and to perform another process." Pressing the key instructs an interruption and transmits interruption instructions to the control means of the electronic apparatus (described as the control section 7) (Figs. 2 and 3). The control means is operably connected to a display control means (described with reference to exemplary display control means 69 (Fig. 3) of the operation panel 80). The control means 7 and display control means 69 can share functions (p. 39, lines 3-17).

The soft interrupt key 60 can change its state, e.g. to a grey display 60a (Fig. 1), or a partially obscured display 60b (Fig. 9). In the case of a hard key interrupt key 70 (Fig. 10), the specification describes the key as having a lamp that be ON or OFF, to change state (p. 36, line 19 to p. 37, line 17). The interrupt key remains displayed through a change of state.

The invention as claimed also requires an interconnection between the interrupt key change of state and the selection of a detail setting for one of the plural jobs.

This connection is through the claimed display section (58 in the Figures; p. 29, lines 8-24) of the LCD 52 of interfacing display apparatus 50, 50a (p. 30, line 11 to p. 33, line 2). In particular, display control means (sections 7, 69), pop-ups on this display section the detail settings (e.g. 68a - 68d in Fig. 1) associated with a selected detail setting key (e.g. "copy ratio" key 68) for one of the jobs. Part (iv) of claim 17 specifies as a result of selecting of a detail setting key, the interruption key changes its display state, and remains displayed on the display section. (Compare, e.g., 60a in Fig. 1 with 60 in Fig. 5; see also p. 29, lines 23-24; p. 31, line 15; page 32, line 5, and p. 34, lines 15-18).